



SCENE (SPRINGFIELD CITY EMPLOYEE NEWS EXTRA)

May/June 2011

Employee information is available online at CityShare and on CityView
at springfieldmo.gov/CityView or on Mediacom 80

Special Issue

Note to employees: This is a combined May/June issue of the SCENE. We appreciate your patience for the delay of this issue. The July issue will arrive at the usual time on June 23.

Employee Discounts

Save money by checking out the "Employee Discount" brochure rack at the north entrance of the Busch Building for great deals offered to City employees. Vendors include: AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, Sam's Club, Titanic Museum, Springfield Wolfpack and more.

All of these offers are also available for view on CityShare under the 'Lists' section on the lefthand column of the page.

Theme Park Discounts

Tickets to Silver Dollar City, Whitewater, Worlds of Fun, Six Flags St. Louis, and Schlitterbahn are available through the Missouri Park and Recreation Association. For more information, contact the Park Board Offices at **864-1049**.



**Character Education
word of the month:**

Cooperation

To be helpful, to work with others for the common good, and to be a willing and productive team player.

"The Link" connects cyclists with Springfield

A ribbon-cutting and ceremonial bike ride was held on the afternoon of Sunday, May 15 to celebrate the opening of the first section of "The Link," a new bicycle and pedestrian corridor that aims to connect greenway trails, existing bike routes and major activity centers in Springfield.

Cyclists from the SpringBike Bicycle Club and Ozark Greenways rode through the ribbon on Hammons Parkway and on to Hammons Field, where they rode around the warning track as a group between games of a double-header. The event also helped kick off the annual "Bike To Work Week" May 16-20.

The Link concept was created by and implemented by the Planning Department and Public Works Traffic Engineering. Avid cyclists **Ralph Rognstad**, Director of Planning and Development, and **David Hutchison**, Professional Engineer, are two of the project's driving forces. Assistant City Planner **Hannah Grubbs** has also played a key role. The Link is a planned north-

➤ See LINK on page 3.



The Link is not a series of bike lanes. Rather, it is an attempt to create a route where drivers and cyclists are expected to share traffic lanes.

Parks annual report shows growth, success

The Park Board held its second annual State of the Parks event in late April, where it released its 2010 Annual Report as well as findings from two key studies conducted over the last year: 2010 Visitor Spending/Economic Impact totals for key athletic events and 2010 Program/Event Attendance Totals.

The annual report highlighted the new Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center and other park properties opened last year, along with a financial statement and other key information. Updates also were given for current in-progress projects throughout the county-wide system for 2011.

The Park Board continued its trend of growth throughout the park system, with 2,755,793 county residents and visitors passing through its gates and doors for the past year through athletic events, family center usage, School-Park programs, pools and a number of other areas. This is an increase of 517,958 (23 percent) from 2009 reported attendance totals.

More than an estimated 4 million additional passive park users are not included in the figure, which include passive or walk-up use of departmental



Parks Director Jodie Adams outlined another successful year gone by and looked ahead to the future during the State of the Parks news conference.

parks, facilities or other related park system amenities.

In 2010, 35 major athletic events directly connected

➤ See PARKS on page 2.

INSIDE

Training center

Work has begun on a new Police/Fire Training Center.

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Public Works Week

Nineteen employees were given the "Image Award" at the Public Works picnic.

8

Do You Know?

Meet **Tony Smith** of the Police Department.

9

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with the Park Board were studied to determine the positive financial impact those activities have on the area's economy. Spending data was calculated only for those participants and/or attendees who do not reside within Greene County. Through just the 35 athletic events analyzed, \$6,750,000 was conservatively estimated to have been spent by visitors towards local hotels, meals, shopping and other expenses.

"It's been another busy, yet successful, year for our parks



system, and we're pleased to have had this opportunity today to share a summary of 2010," said **Parks Director Jodie Adams**. "We've built upon the foundation we created with last year's inaugural State of the Parks, and we're once again happy to tell our story - one that continues to develop and grow with the evolution of our park system."

Adams demonstrated how parks directly impact health, environment, conservation, transportation and economic development decisions. "We all agree that parks are more than just green spaces. By the county voters' wishes we will continue to provide quality parks and recreational services to the citizens of Greene County into the next generation of our nearly 100-year-old system."

The annual report is available online at

www.parkboard.org.

SCENE

(**SPRINGFIELD CITY**
EMPLOYEE NEWS EXTRA)

Issue # 276

cityshare/The SCENE

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RETIREE LIAISON

Finance Department

Ground broken on new training center

A ground breaking ceremony was held May 5 for the Springfield Regional Police-Fire Training Center.

The training center will be built as an addition to the City of Springfield's joint South District Police Station/Fire Station No. 6 located at 2620 W. Battlefield Road.

The \$4.5 million project will provide modern training facilities not only for the City of Springfield's public safety forces, but it also will be accessible to public safety departments around the region. Springfield's police and firefighting forces have lacked adequate training facilities for decades.

The new training center will provide classroom equipped with the latest technology and equipment

for both classroom learning and practical application. The Police Department will be able to simulate domestic situations and other environments in which police officers may find themselves. Firefighters will be able to use practical props for hands-on fire training. For the first time, all of these facilities will be in one place and located next to classrooms, so that academy recruits and current employees can move quickly from classroom to practical training. Until now, these facilities and classrooms have been scattered across the city in whatever space has been available.

The project is expected to be complete by June 2012. Funding comes from the voter-approved Level Property Tax.

Hints from the Help Desk

How to determine your mailbox size

The easiest way to find out the size of your mailbox is to log into the Web access version of Office Outlook. Hover your mouse over the name of the mailbox and a popup will let you know the mailbox space used. Remember that most of the e-mails contributing to size comes from Sent Items, Deleted Items, and Inbox.

A more cumbersome way to do this is to right click on the mailbox in Outlook. Go to "Properties - lastname, firstname." Click on the Folder Size button under the General tab. Keep in mind, you get 245 megs in your Exchange account. (This limit doesn't include your Personal folders.)

Ordering Computer Supplies

When you order computer supplies from the Helpdesk, please include your fund/org at the time of ordering. Also, please pick up your supplies as quickly as you can. Storage space is

limited and we need you to pick up your items when you receive the Cherwell Closed e-mail that is sent to you when your supplies arrive. Thank you for your help in this regard.

Improve yourself! *Lynda.com* training is in full swing.

The response has been quite remarkable. With the freedom to take the course of your choice (of which there are many), the freedom to take the course from any location that has Internet connectivity, and the availability to login whenever you have a few free minutes during your assigned week, this system has had many positive reviews. This resource is free to all departments as Information Systems is paying the bill.

For questions or to take advantage of this offer, simply call the helpdesk at **864-1111** or email helpdesk@springfieldmo.gov. It's the best deal goin'!

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MISSION

We are committed to Working with the Community to provide ethical and responsible local government so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of living and working in Springfield.

SCENE Deadline June 10, 2011

Please direct your submissions to

Mike Brothers in the Department of Public Information. Submissions and ads via e-mail are preferred:

thescene@springfieldmo.gov.



printed on recycled paper

■ *LINK* from page 1.

south bicycle and pedestrian route running through Springfield's core from Doling Park to Medical Mile.

The planned route runs through or right next to the following areas: Doling Park, Commercial Street, Drury University, the O'Reilly Family Events Center, Ozarks Technical Community College, the IDEA Commons, Jordan Valley, the Jordan Creek Greenway, Hammons Field, Downtown, JQH Arena, Missouri State University, Phelps Grove Park, the St. John's hospital campus, Battlefield Mall, the South Creek Greenway, the Cox South hospital campus

and the Ward Branch Greenway.

The Link is not a series of bike lanes. Rather, it is an attempt to create a route where drivers and cyclists are expected to share traffic lanes. The route is primarily on low-speed, low-traffic streets such as Summit, Washington, Hammons and Kings, and it will be clearly marked with signs and pavement markers on the surface of the streets and sidewalks. The ultimate goal is to develop a system of shared-use routes that creates an experience of comfort and safety. Eventually, landscaping and wider sidewalks will help this corridor become a more pleasant experience for all who travel along it.

The first portion of The Link is now underway, running from Doling Park to Phelps Grove Park. Signs and marking are being installed now. Two more planned legs of The Link will connect to other greenways and activity centers in northwest and southeast Springfield.

A complete map of the project can be found online at springfieldmo.gov/thelink. The areas in blue are scheduled to be complete by the end of 2012. The shaded areas will be completed as funding becomes available in subsequent years.

Funding comes from 1/4-Cent Sales Tax For Capital Improvements.

Burris: FY12 Budget now before Council

The City's Fiscal Year 2012 budget is now before City Council for consideration. Council conducted workshops through May 19 in order to dig into the details of the document and work through any suggested changes. The budget is scheduled to go to Council for a first reading on May 31.

In our current budget year, we migrated from a "hiring freeze" to a "hiring frost." This allows departments to refill vacancies that occur on or after March 1 on a one-for-one basis to provide some staffing relief to departments. Previously vacant positions will remain "frozen" at this time to help us continue to weather the recession.

Despite the 78 frozen positions in other departments, all uniformed Police and Fire positions were fully funded in FY10 and FY11. I encourage all Police and Fire uniformed personnel to thank the staff of other City departments that continue to endure frozen/vacant positions for their continuing sacrifice that allows Police and Fire to be fully staffed.

Thus far during FY11, our revenues have exceeded our projections (mostly because of an increase in the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) we received from City Utilities, an increase in Municipal Court-related fines and fees, and an increase in use tax revenues). This allowed us to apply \$1.5 million toward one-time expenses. Council approved those expenditures on May 16, and we will move quickly to obligate those funds and provide a bit of relief to the backlog of budget needs that has amassed over the past two-and-a-half years.

I have been very public that my top priority for FY12 is to restore merit steps. Thus, I am proposing that merit steps be

reinstated in the FY12 budget (effective July 1, 2011). This will cost approximately \$900,000 from the General Fund. The reinstatement of merit steps will not be retroactive, and the funding of merit steps will be reviewed and considered on an annual basis. With our existing budget uncertainty, the reinstatement of merit step increases in FY12 does not guarantee merit steps will be funded in future years – this will be a year-to-year decision.



Greg Burris

I am, however, also sensitive to those employees, specifically FTEs, who are "topped out" at the last step of their salary grade. Since salary and benefit costs constitute 78 percent of our General Fund budget, we cannot afford an across-the-board salary increase in the FY12 budget. Therefore, I am recommending a \$1,000 increase at the last step of all salary grades. By recommending a fixed dollar amount instead of a percentage, this increase will have a greater percentage impact on those FTE employees at the lower end of the pay scale.

Other highlights of the proposed FY12 budget . . .

- The Public Works Department will split into two separate departments effective July 1, 2011. Traffic, Transportation, Storm Water, Street Maintenance, Construction Inspection and General Services will continue, along with the Service Center, to comprise the Public Works Department. Clean Water Services and Solid Waste will comprise the new Environmental Services Department. While the two departments will continue to share some positions, this reorganization will be phased over multiple years.
- Fill vacant positions that include an

assistant fire chief in charge of training, a fire marshal, three police services representatives, two animal control officers, and support staff in the City Attorney's Office, Finance Department, Human Resources and the Municipal Court.

- The proposed budget includes funding for career-laddering of employees in Information Systems, Law, and Municipal Court per the career-laddering plan in effect in each of those departments.
- Significant cuts were made to departments' professional development budgets in both FY09 and FY10. The proposed FY12 budget restores some of these professional development funds, and I am hopeful we can continue to restore these cuts in future years. Professional development must remain a priority.
- The employee wellness program was eliminated as part of the FY11 budget cuts. Restoring the wellness program was identified as a priority in the recent employee survey. The proposed FY12 budget includes \$50,000 to begin to re-establish this program, and I hope to add to this in future years. A new Employee Wellness Committee will help determine how these funds can be allocated most effectively.
- The proposed FY12 budget includes an increase of \$415,000 to our self-funded Worker Compensation Fund. This is the fourth annual increase out of a seven-year commitment of annual increases in order to get this fund back on its feet after having a negative balance for many years. I am committed to restoring this fund to a healthy status.

MILESTONES: MAY 2011

Service Anniversaries 25 years

Chuck Collins

CAD Operations Coordinator
Emergency Communications –
05/19/86

Jack Dill

Supervisor Survey Operations
Public Works – 05/19/86

Kevin Routh

Police Major
Police – 05/06/86

20 years

20 years

Mark Brann

Survey Chief
Public Works – 05/25/91

Scott Kamykowski

Police Sergeant
Police – 05/20/91

Duane Mumm

Heavy Equipment Technician
Public Works – 05/07/91

Eddie Stroud

Police Officer
Police – 05/19/91

J. R. Webb

Assistant Director Emergency
Communications – 05/22/91

10 years

Jenny Deppe

Litigation Paralegal
Law – 05/07/01

Paula Leggett

Police Services Representative
Police – 05/06/01

David Mills

Firefighter
Fire – 05/28/01

Ted O'Neill

Superintendent of Solid Waste
Public Works – 05/07/01

Rebecca Quinn

Program Compliance
Coordinator
Workforce Development –
05/16/01

5 years

Rinda Dunn

Public Health Nurse
Health – 05/13/06

David Johnson

911 Telecommunicator
Emergency Communications –
05/16/06

Hannah Grubbs

Assistant City Planner
Planning and Development –
05/30/06

Stephen Slatkavitz

Aircraft Services Specialist
Airport – 05/22/06

Corine Stewart

Police Services Representative
Police – 05/08/06

Welcome

Cheryl Blevins

Community Health Nurse –
Health

Evelyn Platz

Workforce Development
Specialist – Workforce
Development

Laura Wingo

Public Health Investigator –
Health

Dustin Martin

Melissa Mau
911 Telecommunicators –
Emergency Communications

Tanika Nevills

Court Services Representative –
Municipal Court

Daniel Romine

Craftworker – Airport

John Choate

Maintenance Worker – Public
Works

Jason Hoag

Aircraft Services Specialist –
Airport

Promotions

Cynthia Koenneker

Senior Workforce Development
Specialist – Workforce
Development

Gary Smith

GIS Analyst – Information
Systems

Retirements

Gary Cyr

Director of Aviation
Airport – 16 years

Alexander Montgomery

Fire Captain

Fire – 25 years

Bruce Murrell

Multimedia Coordinator
Public Information – 16 years

Joan Townsend

Police Services Representative
Police – 17 years

Jonathan White

Rescue & Salvage Specialist
Fire – 25 years

David Zuhlke

Police Sergeant
Police – 27 years



FOR SALE

Glass perfume bottle collection; mostly small bottles, have some older Avon bottles too. Buy all as a group (approximately 52 to 55 bottles) or individually. Reasonably priced at \$3 each or buy the complete collection for \$100 Call Kathy at **619-5511** or leave a call back message at **881-2591**.

Coffee ... the world's favorite beverage! Julia's Java Gourmet Coffee offers a large variety of fresh roasted coffees. Visit www.juliasjava.com or call **882-6344** for a brochure.

2008 Nissan Armada LE 4x4 seats eight, loaded, 24,000 mi., factory warr. till 10/2012. \$34,200. For details call Kevin at **872-7234**.

Girl's Bicycle for sale. Make-Diamond Back; Model-Wildwood; Color-Gold/White. \$150. Call Rose at **877-9499**.

Visioneer flatbed scanner, model 9420, USB Driver and Software disk included, \$25. Newcomb 4-harness weaving loom, 45" wide, \$700. Call Phil at **848-8450**.

1970 14 ft Lund aluminum V-bottom boat with 25 hp Johnson outboard motor and trailer. \$1,100. Contact Pete **224-5308**.

Ruger, 12 gauge over and under shotgun, 28" barrel, less than 1 box of shells fired in it. Call Jerry at **(816) 229-1496**.

Yardman Riding Lawn Tractor, 50-inch cut, 22 hp gas motor; reduced to \$499. Runs great - still in use. Call to see, **882-6583**.

Bach student trombone in good shape with extra mouthpiece, cleaning kit, slide lube, hard case, etc. \$250 OBO (paid \$750). Call David at **299-5140**.

David's Bridal flower girl dress, size 2T, white satin, empire waist, sleeveless with shoulder straps, white tulle over satin skirt, removable pink sash. New \$85, asking \$45. Call Kathy Hardt at **862-7706** for info and/or picture of dress.

Homemade Goats Milk Soap. Made with essential oils especially for moisturizing and skin care. Contact Steve Brawn at **299-0956** AFTER 5pm daily, or visit www.stegsfarm.com to view and order.

Meat Rabbits, \$8 each. Call Tina at **818-7017**.

Do you have something to sell or a service to offer? Advertise it for free in the SCENE. Call Mike Brothers at 864-1119 or send an e-mail to thescene@springfieldmo.gov.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 Erin Elliott
Pamela Houston
Joshua Tucker
Randy Villines

2 Austin Davidson
Hannah Eastman
Debbie Lawrence
Culley Wilson

3 Patty Keltner
Thalia Lee
Bart Pearce
Carl Schwartz

4 Wesley Burrell
John Collette
Dwight Cook
Greg Dorshorst
Jewell Gardner
Nanette Kirkey
Deborah Meyer
Judy Rowell

5 Jodie Adams
David Barton
Steven Cornell
April Cox
Madeline Olander
Annesha Shackles
Michael Terrill
Florene Williams

6 Keith Coker
Heather Hill
David Holtmann

7 Kenneth Ault
Kevin Binam
Craig Bright
Joseph Doza
Daniel Lucy
James Stephenson
Jessica Thoele

8 Tom Adams
Dawn Boyd
Floyd Griffin
Jason Hoag
Jeffery Lepold
James Morehouse
Melinda Musselman
Amy White
Carl Yendes
Kenzie Zongker

PW
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POL
FR

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FR
POL

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PRK
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POL

PRK
PRK
PW
MC
HL

AIR
AIR
911

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PW
FR
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POL
PRK

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POL
PRK
AIR
PW
AIR
HL
POL
LAW
PRK

9 Robin Allen
Jason Bogema
Tyler Burks
Kevin Byfield
John Loe
Stephen Slatkavitz
Marcus Walker

10 Joyce Black
June Dillard
Richard Frye
Sheila Maerz
Craig Noblitt
Jeffrey Ostby

11 Clinton Collier
David Cron
Ronald Hutcheson
Casey Kellner

12 Jeremy Liss
Kayla Nutt
Deborah Barnhart
Melissa Hoffmeister

13 Chuck Collins
Timothy Hendrix
Kirsten Kitterman
Josh McCain
Jefferson Wood

14 Tommy Flowers
Anthony Gomez
Johnathon O'Dell
Wayne Parker
Machelle Stacey
Nathaniel Stansberry
Jim Tillman

15 Donna Alrutz
Jonathan Gano
Pamela Gianopulos
Ulrich Gulje
Bryan Welch
Melanie Wilson

16 Michael Gateley
Kevin Grizzell
Brian Miller

17 Bryan Batey
Michele Benck
Samuel Brown
Kimberly Cantrell
Matthew Crouch
Jessica Dahlke
David Hutchison

AIR
FR
PW
PRK
POL
AIR
POL
PW
WD

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AIR

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Alan Lawson
Jenni Lewis
Mark Mercer
Jamie Moss
Christopher Nuccio
Rickey Ryan
Matt Schaefer
Julia Snyder

18 Merleene Knapton

19 Bailey Burnett
Jason Finke
Anita Fonner
Jason Haynes
Sean Kennedy
Jamie Scott
Terri Winchester
Christopher Woods

20 Halli Bruton
Jessica Butts
Austin Lohkamp
Ronald Taylor

21 Carsen Baron
Charles Blackwell
Christine Dahl
Keith Hardecke
Nicholas Hardecke
Thomas Hicks
Melissa Mau
Dennis Posey

22 David Dewitt
James Kelley
Micky Buchanan
David Meyer
Jerrica Peryer
Lloyd Wilson

23 Kaylee Friend
Jordan Raper
Justin Tucker

24 James Burton
Terry Neill
Hannah Renner
Karen Stever
Julie Vaughan
Susan Venker
Claire Wagman
Veronica Zeigler

25 Ashley Creller
Rinda Dunn

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Matthew Ruzicka
Eric Sanders

26 Jolee Cook
Nathan Davis
Garrett Holt
Jason King
Michael Raney
Sarah Thompson

27 Craig Hunter
Ryan Ward
Doug Durrington
Courtney Davidson
Brian Stranghoener

28 Anthony Chaney
Matthew Coats
Michael Kyle
Aaron Wood

29 Travis Morrissey
Tammy Teel
Jason Williams

30 Joe Fuller
Rachel Herron
Scott Lambeth
James Lane
Danny Mooneyham

31 Roger Bates
Troy Crawford
Michael Lucas
Michael Owens
David Trent
Pamela Wells

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Abbreviations

911	Emergency Comm.
AIR	Airport
ART	Art Museum
BDS	Building Dev.
CC	City Clerk
CM	City Manager
EM	Emergency Mgt.
FN	Finance
FR	Fire
HL	Health
HR	Human Resources
IS	Info. Systems
LAW	Law
MC	Municipal Court
OG	Ozark Greenways
PRK	Parks
PDV	Planning & Dev.
DPI	Public Information
POL	Police
PW	Public Works
WD	Workforce Dev.

MILESTONES: JUNE 2011

Service Anniversaries 35 years

Richard Miller
Senior Designer
Information Systems -
06/06/76

25 years

Richard Dekker
Traffic Controls Working
Leader
Public Works - 06/30/86

Richard Dutcher
Parks Maintenance
Supervisor
Parks - 06/09/86

Robert Felber
Custodian
Art Museum - 06/24/86

Bill Morrow
Equipment Operator II
Public Works - 06/03/86

Tri Nguyen
Computer System
Administrator
Emergency Communications
06/10/86

Judy Rowell
911 Telecommunicator
Emergency Communications
06/09/86

Naaman White
Traffic Controls Worker II
Public Works - 06/29/86

20 years

Bradley Eden
Battalion Chief
Fire - 06/03/91

Howard Curtis
Rex Frieze
David Minnehan
Randy Rossner
Michael Wade
Fire Captains
Fire - 06/03/91

15 years

Brian Davis
Firefighter
Fire - 06/03/96

10 years

Jodi Daniel
Coordinator of
Epidemiological Services
Health - 06/11/01

Kevin Houseman
Airport Police Officer
Airport - 06/27/01
Wendy Jenkins
Airport Customer Service
Representative
Airport - 06/18/01

5 years

Cody Allen
Parks Caretaker
Parks - 06/12/06
Troy Crawford
Equipment Technician
Parks - 06/19/06
Amy Davis
911 Telecommunicator
Emergency Communications
- 06/26/06

James Felin
Maintenance Worker
Parks - 06/12/06
Dean Freeman
Equipment Operator II
Public Works - 06/10/06

Jewell Gardner
Health Program Assistant
Health - 06/10/06

Robert Graham
Parks Caretaker
Parks - 06/26/06
James Kelley
Plant Operator II
Public Works - 06/19/06

Thomas Kirby
Parks Caretaker
Parks - 06/19/06

Michael Lamkin
Gardener
Parks - 06/12/06

Mark Miller
Building Maintenance
Worker
Airport - 06/19/06

Don Underwood
Sign Fabricator
Public Works - 06/25/06

Welcome

Sherryl Willhoit
Workforce Develop
Specialist - Workforce
Development
Lisa Curtis
Tamara Kashirsky
John Rose
Michael Siepel
911 Telecommunicators -
Emergency Communications
David Hudson
Maintenance Worker -
Parks

Promotions

Cynthia Daniels
Building Maintenance
Worker - Public Works

Ernest Glenn
Public Grounds
Maintenance Supervisor -
Public Works
Chris Koester
Truck Company Captain -
Fire
Matthew Roberts
Senior Systems
Administrator - Information
Systems
Aaron Roy
Fire Equipment Operator -
Fire
Steven Sweaney
Rescue & Salvage Specialist
- Fire
Adam Turner
Systems Administrator -
Information Systems

Retirements

Patrick Colvard
Parks Caretaker
Parks - 15 years
Larry Forza
Laborer
Public Works - 29 years
Rebecca Quinn
Program Compliance
Coordinator
Workforce Development - 10
years
Rodney Smith
Police Officer
Police - 21 years
Marty Thomas
Public Grounds
Maintenance Supervisor
Public Works - 33 years



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Contact: Roger Chaffin at 872-9705 or
883-9304.

Professional power washing. Free estimates.
Call John at 766-1754.

Now taking new clients at the Wild Hair
Salon in Nixa. Located at 611 W. Mt Vernon
St. Call 725-5450 and just ask for Sharayah
(AKA: Nan).

Bass lessons: Electric bass guitar or acoustic
upright. Electric: Country rock swing;
Upright: bluegrass swing or rockabilly slap. I
have two uprights so you don't have to haul
yours. Former Branson player. Call 838-3084.

New Indoor Swap Meet Now Open! Free
Admission and Parking to the Public! Open
every Saturday and Sunday 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.,
1411 W. Kearney at Paint Games Plus
(behind Dairy Queen). Vendors and
individuals welcome. Call 866-8862 for booth
availability and pricing.

**Do you have something to sell or a
service to offer? Advertise it for free in
the SCENE. Call Mike Brothers at
864-1119 or send an e-mail to
thescene@springfieldmo.gov.**

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Erin Dowdy Kris Heinrichs Lauren McLarry Celestine Onyango Julie Williams	POL PDV PRK HL FR	Timothy Gunn Sherryl Lewellen Zackery Russell	POL HL FR	Ashley Lodwick Sean McGruder Larry Morgan Bryce Park Randell Riley Casey Wilson	PRK HL PW PRK AIR POL	John Bradford Mattie Munsey	PRK POL
2 Marc Becker Cheryl Blevins Rick Bookout John Brewer Thomas Cordova Michael Dayton Larry Decker Larry Haugness Matthew Lyon Daniel Rowles	FR HL AIR POL PW POL PW PRK FR POL	10 Sarah Buhr Chantal Englert John Vangorkom	ART WD FR	19 Jesse Furrow Troy Jordan Michael Ruzicka Micah Tannery James Webb Tracy Whipple Robert Woody	AIR PRK PW FR PDV 911 FR	27 Matthew Brown Brenda Cirtin Jenny Deppe Andrew Essary Joseph Fearn Marti Fewell Mark Garner Jeffrey Holmes	POL CC LAW PRK PRK PDV PRK PRK
3 Heather Anderson Scott Leven	POL POL	11 Randy Wells	AIR	20 Amanda Eckley Colette Patton Jonathan Chamberlin	PRK PRK PRK	28 Joseph Combs Matthew Hawkins Jessica Lafser Everett McGuire Bradley Nicholson Marvin Ringgold Justin Shaffer Natalie Vaughan	PRK PW PRK FR POL POL PW PRK
4 Kelsey Barthels Linda Charles Virgil Dake Melissa Dudley Everett Kelley Randy Milnes Alexandria Ozley Kimberly Pinkert Brett Taylor	HR FN PW PRK PW BDS PRK PRK PRK	13 Bruce Clegg Kenneth Hall Ann Razer Janice Smith	AIR POL POL PDV PRK	21 Holly Garrison Kevin Godfrey Chuck Marinec Meagan Munhollon Hendrik Volschenk	PRK PW PDV AIR POL	29 Chris Akins Erik Brown George Dye Patrick Holloway Ted O'Neill Takao Sears Brennan Wingert	DPI POL PW PRK PW AIR PRK
5 Tammy Beeman Deb Gillenwaters Daniel Grant Kristen Pattie Melanie Williams Kathryn Steinhoff Deena Woolsey	WD HL PRK 911 HR PRK BDS	14 Kevin Fox Jennifer Sandage Teresa Stanley	FR POL PRK	22 Mike Evans Ralph Hayes Jeffrey Hilton James Nixdorf Cynthia Scheuer Justin Thorn	POL PW BDS PW ART POL	30 Jeffrey Carroll James Collins Hannah Eskina Nicole Fowler Joseph Harpine Andy Iorg Christi Norris	FR PW PRK HL PDV FR PW
6 David Burrell Joshua Henson Jennifer Penning Kevin Pierce Jody Smith Brenda Toler	PW FR PRK BDS PRK CC	15 James Dryer Roger Hall Christopher Hollan Todd King Eric Marcol Jordan Miller Andrew Newman Laurie Orr Steven Pratt	AIR ART PW POL HL PRK PRK PRK POL	23 James Blair Mandy Buettgen Eric Glasson Dustin Martin Charles Rupe Dana Swearingen John Wilson	PW PW PRK POL PRK FN POL		
7 Meghan Beard Willard Myers Renatta Peskar James Sandbothe	PRK PRK POL FR	16 Larry Clark Jason Halbert Brenda Miller Molly Nutter Kristen Riffle Allison Schepp Sandra Stangroom James White	POL PW LAW WD PRK PRK PRK PW	24 David Dees Susan Galey Patsy Gardner Jacob Grubbs Mark Montgomery Thomas Royal	POL ART PW PRK DPI POL		
8 Anne-Mary McGrath Jessica Nash Philip Noah Richard Tettenhorst	PRK POL FR PRK	17 Lennis Marcotte Cathy Morrow Cindy Quayle	FR AIR ART	25 Janae Atwood Kennon Ellison Kenneth Hillen Tammy Johnson Jessica Loudis Nathan Moyers Peter Prewitt	POL PRK PW POL PRK PRK FR		
9 Kenneth Barstead Kristi Bolli	PW PRK	18 Cody Allen Mark Cobb Chris Gardner James Greer Angela Huggins Shirley Johnson Gerry Koeneman	PRK HL FR PRK MC PW FR	26 Cynthia Bennett Ronald Braden	WD PRK		

Abbreviations

911	Emergency Comm.
AIR	Airport
ART	Art Museum
BDS	Building Dev.
CC	City Clerk
CM	City Manager
EM	Emergency Mgt.
FN	Finance
FR	Fire
HL	Health
HR	Human Resources
IS	Info. Systems
LAW	Law
MC	Municipal Court
OG	Ozark Greenways
PRK	Parks
PDV	Planning & Dev.
DPI	Public Information
POL	Police
PW	Public Works
WD	Workforce Dev.

Changes to employee health plan detailed

As communicated in the past, the Health Plan has a provision that requires an automatic premium increase of 3 percent each July and another increase of 2 percent each January until the plan's fund balance equals or exceeds the average amount of six months of claims. This reserve level is necessary to cover costs incurred but not yet paid and to be prepared for periods of unusually high or catastrophic claims. As of March 31, 2011, the reserve funding level was at five and a half months. Therefore, the funding is not at the six-month reserve level required to avoid the automatic premium increase of 3 percent in July.

While no one wants premium increases, the practice of periodic, routine increases has resulted in stability in funding of the City's Health Plan during the recent economic downturn. Continuing to maintain an adequate level of reserve funding ensures that plan members will have their claims paid on time and according to the plan's rules. It also means that should an individual plan member have a catastrophic health event, funds will be available to cover their eligible health expenses during a difficult time.

In July, the annual premium rate for each enrolled employee will be \$5,316. Even though the City's revenues have been significantly reduced and merit step pay increases have been frozen for the past two fiscal years, the

City has continued to fund 100 percent of the employee's portion of Health Plan costs. The City's premium contributions, combined with employee's premium payments for dependent coverage, have resulted in the ability of the Health Plan to keep pace with health care cost inflation.

New rates effective July 2011

Coverage Type	Monthly Premium Rate
Employee	Change from \$430 to \$443 per month (100 percent City paid)
Family	Change from \$414 to 426 per month (deduction of \$213 from first and second checks of each month)

Employees who have dependent health insurance coverage will see a deduction change on the June 2011 paychecks, which pays for July 2011 coverage.

An evolving issue that may have an additional impact on the City's Health Plan is health care reform. While many of the details of the remaining provisions of the law are yet to be determined by federal regulators, employees should know that the City's Health Insurance Committee, the City's Health Plan consultant and Human Resources staff continue to review the legislation in detail to understand the law and its implications for future plan years. Employees will be updated

as more is learned about the details of this law and how it may impact benefits. Any changes to the City of Springfield Health Plan will be communicated prior to the effective date of the change.

The Health Insurance Committee will also continue to monitor the plan's revenue in comparison to the plan's costs and update plan members periodically. In addition, the committee continuously looks for opportunities to offset or reduce costs whenever possible. Examples of these efforts include: regularly negotiating for discounts from providers (medical and prescription) and applying for government subsidy programs.

If you have questions, you may contact any of the following Health

Insurance Committee members or **Peggy Thompson**, Senior Human Resources Specialist at **864-1608** or pthompson@springfieldmo.gov.

Committee members: **Pat Carey**, Police; **Andrew McPherson**, Police; **Kevin Gipson**, Health; **Chris Miller**, Airport; **Kenny Hufford**, Public Works; **Jerry Mitchell**, Parks; **Joe Jones**, Fire; **Bob Monier**, Fire; **Randall Latch**, Retiree; **Chris Straw**, Building Development Services; **Sheila Maerz**, Chair, Human Resources; **Bob Schaefer**, Retiree; **Mary Mannix Decker**, Finance; **Peggy Thompson**, Human Resources; **Dan Wichmer**, Law.

Public Works Week declared in Springfield

Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Stephens proclaimed May 15-21 to be National Public Works Week in Springfield at a signing ceremony on May 17.

The theme for the 2011 National Public Works Week is "Public Works: Serving You and Your Community," speaking to the all-pervasive effort of public works professionals and their projects, enhancing quality of life and providing the necessities of community to the citizens of the world.

The City of Springfield's Department of Public Works has a strong tradition of outstanding leadership and accomplishment throughout the department. For example, the American Public Works Association annually presents a Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year Award. Since the program began in 1960, there have been a total of 500 Top Ten Leaders recognized by APWA, including 21 individuals from

Missouri. Of the Missouri recipients, four have been from Springfield. **Jonathan Gano** was recognized as the Young Public Works Leader of the Year in 2010. Earlier this year, **Randy Lyman** joined **Kevin Swaengren** and **Wayne Latimer** as Public Works employees having received the Golden Manhole Award recognition for career-long accomplishments. In April, **Phil Broyles** and **Bill Roach** were recognized with Choose Environmental Excellence awards for their support of the city's urban forest.

In addition, Public Works facilities have been recognized for outstanding work. The Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant was recently named 2010 Plant of the Year by the Missouri Water Environment Federation. The National Association of Clean Water Agencies presented the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant with a platinum peak performance award

(for 100 percent permit compliance for five consecutive years) and the Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant with a gold peak performance award (for 100 percent permit compliance in 2010).

At the Public Works Departmental picnic on May 16, Co-Interim Directors Phil Broyles and Steve Meyer presented "Image Awards" to Public Works employees who have helped promote a positive image of the work done by the department.

Those winners from the past 12 months included: **Terry Allen**, **Brad Smith**, **Christi Norris**, **Julia Snyder**, **Larry Teel**, **Craig Noblitt**, **Mike Raney**, **Dustin Keyes**, **Mick Ruzicka**, **Keith Ball**, **Jonathan Gano**, **Stacy Bergmann**, **Scott Foley**, **Kelly Green**, **Rose Watson**, **Jason Haynes**, **Randy Reed**, **Carrie Lamb** and **Mark Ryan**.

Important Dates

May 21 - Armed Forces Day
May 21 - Battle of the Badges Racing Series at Springfield Raceway

May 30 - Memorial Day,
City offices closed
June 14 - Police/Fire retirees picnic,
4-8 p.m., Northwoods Park,
Lake Springfield

In Brief

Battle of the Badges

Springfield Police Department plays against the Greene County Sheriff's Office in the annual Battle of the Badges charity basketball game at 6 p.m., May 21 at Kickapoo High. Tickets are available at bigbro.com and the first 100 people buying tickets online get a free pass to Hollywood Theaters. All proceeds benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ozarks.

Log onto MyMercy

There are new ways to access your healthcare information online, from both St. John's and Med-Pay. Included with this issue of the SCENE is a document with more information about these resources. MyMercy is St. John's portal to your electronic health records. By setting up your MyMercy account, you may communicate with your doctor, schedule appointments and access test results.

Electronic copies of your health plan explanation of benefits (EOB) documents from Med-Pay are also available online. EOB's are issued each time a claim for a medical service is filed with Med-Pay. Once your log-in and password is obtained from Med-Pay, you may look up recent or past EOB's via Med-Pay's website.

Take a look at the insert included with this issue of the SCENE and use these tools to better manage your health.

You're Somebody

The new phone books are here!
The new phone books are here!

Each year during the month of May the new phone books arrive here at City Offices. On average we receive between 600 to 800 phone books. This translates to between 1,688 and 2,250 pounds of paper that needs to be recycled, which leaves the dilemma of what to do with the old ones, and how

to recycle them appropriately?

This year we are asking all City employees to make an effort to recycle your outdated phone books by bringing them to the employee entrance of the Busch Building. There is an area that will be designated for you to stack your phone books on the floor so they can be recycled.

We will be partnering with a local Girl Scout troop to pick up the old phone books as a service project for their organization. This will also make the workload and the recycle bins a little bit lighter this year for our Public Works staff. For more information call Sharon Spain at **864-1105**. Any remaining phone books, including phone books from home, can still be recycled along with other office/mixed paper headed for the big green bin.

Sales tax update

The City's May 2011 one percent sales tax check from the Missouri Department of Revenue is up 5.46 percent compared to May 2010. Revenue collected totaled \$2,383,214 compared to \$2,259,850 in May 2010. Year-to-date, sales tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2011 is 1.96 percent above the previous year. Year-to-date collections total \$32,800,645 compared to \$32,170,938 in 2010 — a difference of about \$630,000.

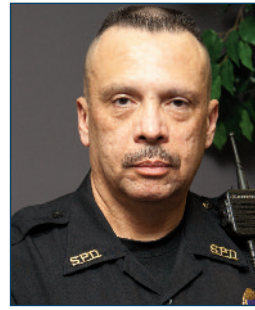
Kids Fishing Day

Join an action-packed morning of activities including casting, knotting and fish identification at the annual Kids Fishing Fun Day, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., June 4. Put that knowledge to use fishing for bluegill and catfish. You'll participate in a postevent weigh-in and the staff from the Missouri Department of Conservation will clean your catch for you to take home for dinner! Pre-register for all the details.

For more information call Sportsman's Park Center, **864-1332**.

Do You Know...?

A Q & A of City of Springfield employees. To suggest a colleague for a "Do You Know...?" profile, email thescene@springfieldmo.gov.



Tony Smith

Police Officer,
Police Department.
Tony has worked for the City for more than 14 years.

What's your most satisfying assignment while working at the SPD? The 5-and-a-half years I was assigned to the Training Section/Rangemaster. I love teaching and miss it.

What is your basic rule for dealing with people in your capacity as a Police Officer?

Treat everyone decently and with respect, unless/until they give me a reason to treat them otherwise.

What do you like most about your job?

Thinking on my feet and the people I work with (mostly).

What are you most proud of?

My wife and children.

What's the one thing about you most people don't know?

I'm a computer geek (Mac). I love teaching.

What will St. Peter say when you reach heaven?

He has to wait in line; I'm talking to Jesus first.

From the SCENE archives

20 Years Ago - May 1991

- Dan Kinney was quoted as saying the volunteer organization Friends of the Zoo started with just tee-shirts and balloons, but has become an integral part of maintaining the Zoo making it a wholesome, educational, and recreational place to visit.
- Public Works employee Sergeant Major Jess Abney was recommended for the Legion of Merit Award based on super meritorious service and exemplary leadership while serving as the Sergeant Major of Warrior Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California. from January 15 to April 1, 1991.

10 Years Ago - May 2001

- Employee Survey Results showed 80 percent of employees were satisfied with their jobs and 74 percent were satisfied working for the City of Springfield. The return rate on the survey was 58 percent of employees.



WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Awards & Recognition

From our Twitter page at: www.twitter.com/cityofsgf



The **Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant** received the 2010 Treatment Plant of the Year Award for plants treating more than 5 million gallons of wastewater per day. The SWTP is designed to treat 43 million gallons per day with peaks of up to 150 million gallons during heavy rain events. The plant was given this honor based on outstanding operations and maintenance, and a track record of consistent compliance. Public Works employees accepted the award from the Missouri Water Environment Federation earlier this year (pictured).



Randy Lyman, PW Environmental Compliance Officer, was given the 2011 Golden Manhole Award, an honor recognizing his 39 years of exceptional professional service. Selection is based on contributions individuals have made to the operation, maintenance or design of collection systems, with an emphasis on pride, safety, teamwork, education, professionalism and leadership.

Errin Kemper and **Todd Wagner** of the Public Works Stormwater Services Division have both passed the Certified Stormwater Managers test. This is a relatively new certification that was developed by the American Public Works Association. The test and certification are aimed at stormwater professionals who have broad knowledge of community stormwater management, including stormwater engineering, water quality protection and capital improvement program management.

The Community Partnership of the Ozarks' Task Force on Gangs and Youth Violence hosted a recognition ceremony for the Graffiti Reporting Program on April 21. City employees were among those receiving certificates for their involvement in the program. **Nathan Huggins** with Information Systems was recognized for his help in training and providing handheld GPS units for the participants. **Sgt. Justin Gargus** and **Cpl. Tatem Dewitt** of the Springfield Police Department were recognized for their assistance with identifying gang graffiti. **Claudia Crighton**, Public Information Department, was recognized for assistance with reporting the graffiti. In the program's first year, 549 incidents of graffiti at 126 locations were reported.

In April 22 edition of the News-Leader, the Health Department's **Animal Control Section** received a rose from **Lynn O'Toole** of Walnut Grove. Ms. O'Toole gave the rose to Springfield Animal Control for saving the lives of 92.8 percent of all dogs picked up this year through their hard work in locating owners and working with licensed rescues.

Lisa Lee, Public Health Investigator II

To: **Police Chief Paul Williams**

Police Services Representative **Julie White** called today stating **Judith Mear** spoke with her in reference to a stolen vehicle. PSR White stated Ms. Mear said, "**Officer Tom Savard** was like a bulldog and he wasn't going to give up. He was relentless after the suspect. He was knee-deep in the mud trying to catch the suspect. She likes this kind of community service."

Francene Marchant, Executive Assistant, SPD

Don't wait for bloodwork and other lab results. Get them any time of day or night through MyMercy.



Connect with
your doctor



Renew
prescriptions



Schedule
appointments



Receive
health reminders

Ask your doctor about MyMercy and learn more at mercy.net



**Med-Pay's Employee Web site,
"My Med-Pay Data",
Provides On-line Access to
Health Claim
Explanation of Benefits (EOB)**

Med-Pay, the City of Springfield Health Plan's third party administrator, provides on-line access to your medical claims history via www.Med-Pay.com. To initiate access, you must first contact Med-Pay's Customer Service to receive your log-in information. Once you have this information, click on the "For Employees" tab on the web site and then click on the "[My Med-Pay Data](#)" link in the top right corner of the main white area.

Should you have problems with or questions about accessing your on-line claims information, you may call Med-Pay's Customer Service Department at 417-886-6886.

Here are some features of Med-Pay's web site:

- Access to your claims information is available on-line 24 hours a day and 7 days per week through the My Med-Pay Data link.
 - Access to the past three years of medical claims history.
 - Claims information for you and any family member who is covered under the City of Springfield Health Plan is accessed under your login and password. You will see the online Explanation of Benefits (EOB) for any persons for which you would have received an Explanation of Benefits in the mail.
- Fillable claim and accident questionnaire forms that can be submitted on-line.
- Printable forms that can be filled out and mailed or faxed.
- Helpful Hints, Claims Filing Instructions, Frequently Asked Questions are available.
- Order a replacement ID card; change of address request; precertification; general inquiries, etc.